Government on the viability of each of the 120 sick NTC mills in the country;

(b) if so, the details of each mill proposed to be put on rails;

(c) the amount involved in their rehabilitation and modernisation therein; and

(d) the details of such mills in Gujarat which are likely to be revilised in modernisation and the number of workers likely to be rehabilitated thereby?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The report is presently under consideration of the Government.

Export of Raw Cotton from Maharashtra

549. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minsiter of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that cotton growers in Maharashtra are suffering because the average yield of raw cotton is falling and prices are stagnant in the domestic market;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to encourage export of raw cotton to keep cotton growing attractive for the growers in the State;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to increase cotton production in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) In Maharashtra, cotton is procured by the Maharashtra Co-operative Cotton Growers marketing Federation Ltd. under the Cotton Monopoly Purchase Scheme.

The area under cotton and average yield of cotton in Maharashtra over the last three years has been as follows:

Year	Area (lac hac.)	Yield (Kg./hac.)
1993-94	27.30	87.00
1994-95	27.60	99.00
1995-96	30.65	157.00

(Source: Cotton Advisory Board)

The price of Kapas in Maharashtra, compared to prices of equivalent prices in other States are given in the statement attached (*See* below).

(b) During the current (1996-97) cotton season, the Government has released so far an export quota of 1 lakh bales of staple cotton to the Maharashtra State Co-operative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation Ltd.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) An Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) is being implemented by the Union Ministry of Agriculture in cotton growing States, including Maharashtra.

Statement

S.No.	Maharashtra Variety	Kapas Price Price (Rs./Qt) in Maharashtra	Equivalent variety in other States	State where grown	Price Range (Rs/Qt) in other States
1.	NHH-44	1975	F-414	Punjab Haryana	1820-1830
2.	LRA-5166	2000	LRA	MP	1825-1660
3.	H/4MEC-1	2100	S-4/S-6/H4	Gujarat/MP	1700-2050
4.	Y-1	1870	J-34/	Punjab	1586-1850

S.No.	Maharashtra Variety	Kapas Price Price (Rs. Qt) in Maharashtra	Equivalent variety in other States	State where grown	Price Range (Rs/Qt) in other States
			Bikaneri Narma SG DCH-32	Haryana Rajasthan	
5.	DCH-32	Not Grown in Maharashtra	DCH-32	Karnataka	2600-2230

Cotton Bales for export fails to find customers in the International Market

550. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quota of several lakh bales of cotton recently released for export by the Ministry is not findings customers in the international market; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Profit and Loss Incurred by the Mills of National Textile Corporation

551. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of NTC mills which earned profit in 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) the number of NTC mills incurred loss in 1995-96 and 1996-97; and

(c) the measures proposed to revive sick mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) Only one mill out of 120 mills has made a provisional net profit during 1996-97 (April-September, 96). All the remaining 199 mills have made net losses in 1996-97. During the year 1995-96, all the 120 NTC mills had incurred net losses.

(c) Due to continuous losses and total net worth erosion, 8 out of 9 subsidiary corporations of NTC have been referred to the BIFR which has declared them to be sick industrial companies. Government have approved a Revised Turn Around Plan for rehabilitation of NTC, involving modernisation of 79 mills at an outlay of Rs. 2005.72 crores, restructuring of 36 unviable mills into 18 viable units etc. The plan has been placed before the BIFR for its approval before implementation. The funds for modernisation will be met out of the proceeds of sale of surplus lands and assets of NTC. Once the BIFR approves the plan and funds are raised from sale of surplus lands and assets, the rehabilitation plan will be implemented leading to revival of NTC mills.

MIRA Seth Panel Report

552. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mira Seth Panel set up by the Government to identify the bottlenecks in the way of development of the handloom sector has submitted its report to Textiles Minister recently as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 27th January, 1997;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) The action Government have taken so far to improve the lot of weavers